

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a ~~recording medium~~ hard disk having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating step is conducted prior to forming said layer structure on top of said support substrate.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a recording medium having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating step is conducted prior to forming said layer structure on top of said support substrate, as described in Claim 1, wherein:


said surface treating step results in a contact angle with water of said support substrate surface of 60 degrees or less; and

said surface treating step results in a reduction in transmittance of 400 nm ultraviolet light, compared to said support substrate prior to treatment, of 10% or less.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a ~~recording medium~~ hard disk, as described in Claim 1, wherein:

after said surface treating step in complete, said active gas atmosphere is replaced with an inert gas.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a ~~recording medium~~ hard disk, as

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described in Claim 3, wherein said inert gas is nitrogen.

5. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 2, wherein:

after said surface treating step is complete, said active gas atmosphere is replaced with an inert gas.

6. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 5, wherein said inert gas is nitrogen.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, ~~as described in Claim 1,~~ having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating step is conducted prior to forming said layer structure on top of said support substrate, wherein said active gas is ozone.

8. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 7, wherein said ozone is generated by at least one of an ozone generator and ultraviolet light irradiation.

9. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 2, wherein said active gas is ozone.

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10. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium, as described in Claim 9, wherein said ozone is generated by at least one of an ozone generator and ultraviolet light irradiation.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a ~~recording medium~~ hard disk as described in Claim 1, wherein said support substrate is a polycarbonate or polyolefin thermoplastic resin.

12. (Original) A method for manufacturing a recording medium as described in Claim 2, wherein said support substrate is a polycarbonate or polyolefin thermoplastic resin.

13. (Currently Amended) A hard disk ~~recording medium~~, having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, made by the process comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating step is conducted prior to forming said layer structure on top of said support substrate.

14. (Currently Amended) A recording medium, having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, made by the process comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating step is conducted prior to forming said layer structure on top of said support substrate as described in claim 13, wherein:

said surface treating step results in a contact angle with water of said support substrate surface of 60 degrees or less; and

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said surface treating step results in a reduction in transmittance of 400 nm ultraviolet light, compared to said support substrate prior to treatment, of 10% or less.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a ~~recording-medium~~ hard disk having a layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on a thermoplastic resin support substrate surface, comprising:

surface treating said support substrate by placing said support substrate in an active gas atmosphere, wherein said surface treating is conducted prior to forming said layer structure with at least one signal recording layer on top of said support substrate.

16. (Currently Amended) A ~~recording-medium~~ hard disk produced by the process of claim 15.

Claims 17-18 (Canceled).

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